The Brethren Evangelist.

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Jesus, The Life-Giver.

Jesus, Lord of life eternal,
Taking those He loved the best,
Stood upon the mount of Olives,
And His own the last time blest
Then, though He had never left it,
Sought again His Father's breast.

Know, O world! this highest festal;
Floods and oceans, clap your hands!
Angels, raise the song of triumph;
Make response, ye distant lands;
For our flesh is knit to Godhead,
Knit in everlasting bands

Loosing death with all its terrors,
Thou ascendedst up on high;
And to mortals, now Immortal,
Gavest Immortality,
As Thine own disciples saw Thee
Mounting Victor to the sky.

Lyra Messianica.

Aurelia, Iowa.

We held our communion meeting Saturday evening, the 29th of May; and by the number that communed we would judge that the members on this occasion took unusual interest in the services of God's house.

A week prior we held our business meeting, and among other things it was decided that, the Lord willing, we hold a feast on the last Saturday in the months of April and October of each year. Those who think that they may sometime visit this place should make a note of this and they will know without further notice when our feasts occur.

Today two were buried with Christ in baptism. A man and his wife, who will be ornaments to the church.

Our Sunday School is in progress for the summer with a reasonable attendance. We have concluded to try the International S. S. lessons: here to fore they have not been used.

WALTER S. MCCLAIN.
Aurelia, Iowa, June 6, 1885.

Seeking and Finding.

In the fall of 1866, I became interested about my soul's salvation under the preaching of the United Brethren. I was brought up in the United Brethren faith, raised in a United Brethren neighborhood; hence, knew very little outside of the U. B. faith, and by them was induced to seek religion at the mourners' bench. I went, I sought for eight successive weeks earnestly, but failed to find it. I did not stop seeking, however, but kept trying as I was directed by them. They insisted upon me to join their church as a seeker and if I would become satisfied at any time in the future, then they would receive me as a full member. But I did not accept their proposition. I kept on seeking, privately, as I was directed by them for six years until 1872, at which time I was again persuaded to the mourners' bench. I went and sought publicly again for three nights. But as in 1866 I went away without finding that which I was seeking for. I went home after services the third night and I told my wife that I did not intend to go back again, and from this time I determined to read and investigate the word of God myself, and instead of other people thinking for me, I determined to read and think for myself.

From this time on I began to receive more and more light and became partly satisfied. And after becoming partly satisfied, I concluded to join my self to some branch of the Christian church, but I was greatly perplexed to know what church to connect myself with. I began to read church disciplines. I read a great number of them; they all seemed to be too large or to small; none would harmonize with the word of God. But finally I was visited by the Lutherans, and was talked to by them. Finally I gave my consent to become a member, but I did not believe in sprinkling. That was my trouble with that church. I joined on condition that if I could become satisfied, I would remain with them. But the more I read the Bible upon the subject, the more and more I became dissatisfied upon their baptism, especially infant baptism; hence, I withdrew on account of baptism and a few other points that I could not see.

I then stood without until Bro. Swihart made his appearance in 1884, and he insisted upon his hearers to accept the only perfect creed that I ever read—the creed that was always precious to me. That creed was the Bible and nothing else. And I and my wife, who had been a member of the United Brethren church for four years, she also read this perfect creed (the Bible) for herself, concluded to unite with the Brethren Church. Since that time we have enjoyed that liberty to do what is right, and hence, have that true happiness which should be in the heart of every true child of God. After reading a great number of creeds and trying to get one to harmonize with the Bible and failing in this point, I certainly was greatly relieved when I found a people that accepted the only creed that will stand the test at the day of judgment.

And now since I have accepted that perfect creed which was handed down to us by Christ and the Apostles, and have received that peace of mind that I had been seeking for so many years, I feel like pointing out the way to others. And now when a sinner comes to me and wants to know what to do to be saved, I do not direct him, as I was directed, to the mourners' bench and pray for the remission of sins and receive the Holy Ghost. I tell them as the apostle Peter did, "repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. And then if they are told wrong they will have the matter to settle with the Apostle Peter and not with me. I believe just as much in prayer and faith as I ever did; yea more, I believe faith, is to take God at his word. James says, Faith without works is dead. Hence we must have faith enough to believe that Christ and the Apostles meant just what they said.

May God help us to stick close to our creed (the Bible) and accept nothing else.

Brethren pray for me that I might hold out faithful unto the end. ALEX. TROBAUGH.

Myerhoffers Store, Va.

From Indian Creek.

This letter is the second chapter of the good work began among us by Bro. Rittgers of South Bend, who is now by the unanimous voice of the church, called to the oversight of this congregation as elder, and has promised, nothing preventing, to meet with the church at Indian Creek, once every two weeks.

His last meeting one evening last week, was made very impressive by the ordination by Bro. Rittgers of Bro. George Neff, who has filled the office of pastor for some time, to the eldership. It is a very serious matter indeed, to place a man in the front of the battle, to lead in carnal warfare, men's bodies to the sacrifice for country, for honor or fame, but how solemn, how much more serious, the responsibility of him, who stands at the head of the company among those who fight for men's souls; for him, there is no trumpet sounds "retreat," no matter how fierce the fire, or thick the bullets fly; the honor of his cause has but one command, where the battle rages thickest. Press on! Press on! His "honorable discharge," meets him at the river of death. Brethren pray for elder George Neff.

We are having a pretty dry time in "church and field" just now, but hope the Father of all, will remember us in spite of our man, failings and short comings Pray for us all

That the sheaves of our harvest be
ready for reaping,
In the hour of His coming by day or
by night.
Not listlessly waiting, not idle, nor
sleeping,
But looking for Jesus with lamps all
alight.

E. M. SIGERFOOSE.

Bristol, Ind.

Dowagiac, Mich.

June 7th.—I am this Monday morning at the hospitable home of brother and sister Mica Burns, in the Almena congregation, Vanburen Co., Mich.

I have been laboring here for and with them. In their regular quarterly council meeting on Saturday, two were received by letter.

I wish also to say that the brethren and sisters at this place have reorganized their S. S., with our very efficient brother, John Shank, as their superintendent, and brother Joseph Soloman as assistant superintendent. I labored with them at 10 a. m. in S. S., and preached at 11 a. m., also at 4 p. m. So you can see by this that the church is still alive to the cause at this place. Pray that the Lord will perfect the work begun here.

A word to my co-laborers on the Mission Board of Northern Indiana and Michigan: I hope you will consider our almost helpless condition, here in Michigan. Helpless, first, because of the lack of a minister that will leave home; secondly, because of the want of money, as most of our members are poor, and are not able some of them, hardly to get clothes etc., to attend worship.

I, perhaps should have stated in connection with my report of the council meeting, that we organized a Mission Board of solicitors and their work will be to raise funds for the mission work. It consists of a secretary, treasurer and chairman.

Now I wish to say to those of the Board of Mission, or any one else who was present at the Convention or Mission Meeting, that if you have a program of how to proceed with the work please send one to the above address.

WALTER CLARK.

The Gospel Banner Erected in Altoona.

At the earnest solicitation of the good people of the City of Altoona, your humble servant went there on the 8th of May to hold a protracted meeting, and though G. B. Brethren who are in sympathy with us asked for permission to use their Church, but were refused. The Baptists kindly offered us theirs and furnished the music besides. I continued over two Sabbaths; bro. W. L. Spanogle preached two excellent discourses for me during the week. Before I closed the meeting I extended an invitation to all those who accepted the Gospel, the whole Gospel and nothing but the Gospel as their rule of faith and practice, to stand up, and from the number that rose, officers were selected in the usual way, and church organized to be known as the Progressive Brethren of the City of Altoona, with George S. Brown, Deacon; Harry Noel, Trustee: Simon Hummelstein, Secretary; and bro. Brown Treasurer. Ministering brethren passing through Altoona are earnestly requested to stop and preach for them. Inquire for No. 122 Third Avenue.

J. G. SNIDER.

Holy Living.

A holy life is made up, says Bonar, of a number of small things. Little words, not eloquent speeches or sermons; little deeds, not miracles, nor battles, nor one great heroic act or martyrdom, make up the true Christ life. The little constant sunbeam, not the lightning; the waters of Siloam, "that go softly" in their meek mission of refreshment, not the waters of the "river, strong and many," rushing down in torrents, noise and force, are the true symbols of a holy life. The avoidance of little evils, little sins, little inconsistencies, little weaknesses, little follies, little indiscretions and imprudences, little foibles, little indulgences of self and the flesh; the avoidance of such little things goes far to make up, at least, the negative beauty of a holy life.

The Throne of Woman.

The well-being of society rests on our homes, and what are their foundation-stones but woman's care and devotion! A good mother is worth an army of acquaintances; and a true-hearted, noble-minded sister is more precious than the "dear five hundred friends." The love we experience for domestic blessings increases faith in an infinite goodness, and is a foretaste of a better world to come.

Our homes, as one well observes, are the support of the goverment and the church, and all the associations and organizations that give blessings and vitality to social existence are herein originated and fostered.

Those who have played around the same door-step, basked in the same mother's smile, in whose veins the same blood flows, are bound as a sacred tie that can never be broken. Distance may separate, quarrels may occur, but those who have a capacity to love anything must have at times a bubbling up of fond recollections, and a yearning after the joys of bygone days.

Every woman has a mission on earth. Be she of high or low degree—in single blessedness or double—she is recreant to her duty if she sits with folded hands and empty head and heart, and frowns on all claims to her benevolence or efforts at the welfare of others. There is "something to do" for every one—a household to put in order, a child to attend to, some parent to care for some class of unfortunate, degraded or homeless humanity to befriend. "To whom much is given, of them much will be required." That soul is poor, indeed, who leaves the world without having exerted an influence that will be felt for good after she has passed away.

There is little beauty in the lives of those women who are drawn into gay circles of fashionable life, whose arena is public display, whose nursery is their prison. At home does woman appear in her true glory! In the inner sanctuary of home-life can she be most like those who walk above "in soft white light" and follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.—*Christian Advocate.*

What Jesus is Able to do for you.

Able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. 2 Cor. 9: 8.

Able to succor them that are tempted. Heb. 2: 18.

Able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. Jude 24.

Able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him. Heb. 7: 25.

What he has promised he is able also to perform. Romans 14: 4.

Able also to make you stand. Romans 14: 4.

Able to keep that which I have committed unto him. 2 Tim. 1: 12.

Able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. Acts 20: 32.

Able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. Eph. 3: 20.—*Selected.*